

HEISEY'S GYPSY WANDERINGS

REPORT FOR JULY 2018

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We have had a most wonderful and busy July. It started with a celebration of July 4th with our missionary friends in Lugoj, about an hour away. Several missionary families were there—we had a very fun time and enjoyed good fellowship.

Then July 16, our 42 wedding anniversary, found us in Ashdod, Israel, next to the Mediterranean Sea. Our friends living in Israel invited us to stay with them—that combined with a cheap flight was unable to be resisted! We saw the Valley of the Shadow of Death, the place where ravens fed Elijah and enjoyed walking through the Damascus Gate into the shopping area. We also found the location of a Gypsy neighborhood near the Lion Gate. Gypsies in Israel are called Domari. We also found the Domari Society of Gypsies Center in Jerusalem. We enjoyed a lunch and talking with Amoun Sleem, whose vision it was to start the Domari Center. Being a Gypsy herself, she wanted to help those without schooling, get ladies involved in sewing projects and making traditional items to be sold at the center and around the city. She has done a great job of helping her people and we enjoyed our time together.

We also enjoyed a church service in Ashdod with Russian Jewish people (one man also knew Romanian!) and Pete preached for them and enjoyed singing in a Russian quartet! We always enjoy the Garden Tomb and heard a lovely classical music concert there our first night. Praise the Lord for 42 wonderful years of marriage, a journey together that's been quite unforgettable and amazing! May God give us many more years together.

In July, we opened our little 'school' to all the children in the neighborhood from 5-12 years of age. We had nearly 40 who said they wanted to come, but we've been averaging just under 30 each week, which is fine since there are only 3 of us and abilities varying from not knowing how to hold a pencil to kids doing multiplication and division! It has been very hot but the kids have been very attentive and love coming and hopefully learning!

In our church services, Mariana is back to work so sometimes she doesn't come; this week she came late but we're glad she came. Gina also tries to come and we're glad for that. Sometimes she spends the day with her husband selling things at the outdoor market (VERY hot) and gets home just in time for church. We enjoy a sweet fellowship time afterward which we all enjoy. Pray for their son Adi and his wife Lusi to be faithful and want to learn and grow. Pray also for Ion; he comes sometimes but still isn't saved. Pray, too, for our 'neighbors' Gheza and Dana. Gheza gets mad at us when he's drunk and plays loud music during service time!

Thank you for your prayers for us—God bless you as you serve Him.

Your Servants,

Pete, Julie, and Larisa Heisey

